Charitable remainder trust

Make a gift of cash, publicly traded securities, real estate, closely held stock or other assets and, in turn, receive a stream of income for life or a term of years.

Through a charitable remainder trust at Thrivent, your gift of assets convert to ongoing income payments to you for a lifetime, a term of up to 20 years, or both. At the end of the trust, the remainder is directed to a donor-advised fund.

With a unitrust, you can make multiple gifts of cash and publicly traded securities. A special form of unitrust is available for illiquid assets such as real estate and closely held stock. Your income payments are calculated annually using a set percentage rate and the value of your trust’s assets each year. Gift Minimum: $100,000 for cash and publicly traded securities, $200,000 for gifts of real estate or closely held stock.

In some instances an annuity trust, where you make a one-time gift and receive ongoing fixed-income payments, may be appropriate. Your gift to the trust can be cash, publicly traded securities or mutual funds. Gift minimum: $50,000.

Benefits of giving

Support favorite charities or causes. At the end of the trust, the remaining value is directed to your donor-advised fund for the benefit of your recommended charities or causes.

Receive income for life or term of years. Name yourself, your spouse, family members or friends as income recipients.

May reduce taxes. You may receive an immediate charitable income tax deduction in the year the gift is made. Any unused charitable deductions can be carried over an additional five years. For gifts of securities or real estate owned for more than a year, you may avoid immediate capital gains taxes on the appreciated value. The trust sells appreciated assets tax-free and 100% of the net sale proceeds are reinvested in the trust.

Potentially lower estate taxes. By taking appreciated assets out of your estate, you may reduce the size of your estate and possibly your tax liability. (There may be estate/gift tax consequences if someone other than the donor or the donor’s spouse is named as an income recipient.)

How it works

Donor → Gift of cash, securities, real estate → Trust → Donor-advised fund → Support to your favorite causes & charities

Income payments to donor and potential charitable tax deduction
Donor story

The donor. A couple, ages 64 and 63, wanted to use appreciated stock to create income and create a legacy of family giving.

Their gift. They established a charitable remainder unitrust using appreciated stock worth $100,000 with a cost basis of $20,000. Based on their ages and gift assets, the donors will receive variable income of 6.3% of the trust annually.

They received an immediate charitable income tax deduction (based on above factors and the current IRS discount rate) of $23,608 and avoided capital gains tax upon transfer. At their deaths, the trust remainder will be directed to a donor-advised fund with the donors’ two children serving as fund advisors. Their children and grandchildren will continue their legacy of giving by recommending grants to the families’ favorite charities far into the future.

About us

We believe humanity thrives when people make the most of all they’ve been given. Thrivent Charitable Impact & Investing™ helps people do just that—bring their generosity to life so that they can support the organizations and causes closest to their hearts, now and into the future.

Grounded in our purpose to serve, we take a holistic, personalized approach to help our donors create strategic charitable plans and give in a way that best reflects their values and financial priorities. Together, we are committed to creating positive impact and inspiring lasting change in our communities.

Are you ready to make the most of your giving?

We can help you determine if a charitable remainder trust is right for you. Contact your Thrivent financial professional, visit thriventcharitable.com or call 800-365-4172.